

1           Claim 3 (currently amended)   ~~A~~ ~~The~~ universal stud for use with  
2 demountable wall partitions and demountable ceiling panels ~~as defined in~~  
3 ~~claim 12 further~~ comprising

4                   (a)   at least one base having a first end and a second end, the  
5                           base having sufficient structure for removably engaging  
6                           only one of a demountable wall partition and a  
7                           demountable ceiling panel, and

8                   (b)   a plurality of arms extending from the base such that two  
9                           arms and the base define a channel for receiving one of  
10                          the demountable wall partition and the demountable  
11                          ceiling panel,

12           wherein the plurality of arms comprises

13                   (1)   a first arm extending from the first end of the base,

14                   (2)   a second arm extending from the second end of the  
15                           base,

16                   (3)   a third arm extending from the base closer to the  
17                           first arm than the second arm,

18                   (4) a fourth arm extending from the base closer to the  
19                               second arm than the first arm and between the  
20                               third arm and the second arm, such that

21                   (5) an exterior channel is defined by the first arm, the  
22                               third arm and the base therebetween,

23                   (6) an interior channel is defined by the third arm, the  
24                               fourth arm and the base therebetween,

25                   (7) an inner channel is defined by the fourth arm and  
26                               the second arm,

27               whereby the channels receive and removeably secure at least one of  
28 the demountable wall partition and the demountable ceiling panel between  
29 the channels such that the universal stud can be oriented to accept a  
30 demountable wall partition, or, can be oriented to receive at least one of the  
31 demountable wall partition and the demountable ceiling panel-, and the  
32 universal stud further comprising:

33                   (a) a second base having a first end and a second end, the  
34                               base having sufficient structure for removably engaging  
35                               at least one of the demountable wall partition and the  
36                               demountable ceiling panel, with the second end of the

37                    second base fixedly secured to the second end of the first  
38                    base at a predefined angle,  
39                    (b) a plurality of arms extending from the second base, the  
40                    plurality of arms comprising  
41                    (1) a first arm extending from the first end of the base,  
42                    (2) a second arm extending from the second end of the  
43                    base,  
44                    (3) a third arm extending from the base closer to the  
45                    first arm than the second arm,  
46                    (4) a fourth arm extending from the base closer to the  
47                    second arm than the first arm and between the  
48                    third arm and the second arm, such that  
49                    (5) an exterior channel is defined by the first arm, the  
50                    third arm and the base therebetween  
51                    (6) an interior channel is defined by the third arm, the  
52                    fourth arm and the base therebetween  
53                    (7) an inner channel is defined by the fourth arm and  
54                    the second arm

55           whereby the channels receive and removeably secure at least one of  
56 the demountable wall partition and the demountable ceiling panel between  
57 the channels.

1           Claim 4 (currently amended) The universal stud for use with  
2 demountable wall partitions and demountable ceiling panels as defined in  
3 claim ~~42~~ 3 further comprising means for removably securing the stud to the  
4 partition.

1           Claim 5 (previously presented) The universal stud for use with  
2 demountable wall partitions and demountable ceiling panels as defined in  
3 claim 4 wherein the means for removably securing the stud to the partition  
4 adapted to be selected from the group consisting of screws, nails, removable  
5 pins, adhesive, releasable adhesive, caulk and straps.

1           Claim 6 (previously presented) The universal stud for use with  
2 demountable wall partitions and demountable ceiling panels as defined in  
3 claim 4 wherein one demountable wall partition or demountable ceiling  
4 panel is used.

1           Claim 7 (previously presented) The universal stud for use with  
2 demountable wall partitions and demountable ceiling panels as defined in

Response To Office Action

Serial No.: 10/713,414

Art Unit: 3635

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3 claim 4 wherein two demountable wall partitions or demountable ceiling  
4 panels are used such that a space is created therebetween.

1 Claim 8 (previously presented) The universal stud for use with  
2 demountable wall partitions and demountable ceiling panels as defined in  
3 claim 4 wherein three demountable wall partitions or demountable ceiling  
4 panels are used such that a space is created therebetween.

1 Claim 9 (previously presented) The universal stud for use with  
2 demountable wall partitions and demountable ceiling panels as defined in  
3 claim 7 wherein two demountable wall partitions or demountable ceiling  
4 panels are used with additional materials disposed in the space therebetween.

1 Claim 10 (previously presented) The universal stud for use with  
2 demountable wall partitions and demountable ceiling panels as defined in  
3 claim 8 wherein three demountable wall partitions or demountable ceiling  
4 panels are used with additional materials disposed in the spaces  
5 therebetween.

1 Claim 11 (previously canceled).

1 Claim 12 (currently canceled) ~~A universal stud for use with~~  
2 ~~demountable wall partitions and demountable ceiling panels comprising:~~

3           ~~(a) — at least one base having a first end and a second end, the~~  
4           ~~base having sufficient structure for removably engaging~~  
5           ~~only one of a demountable wall partition and a~~  
6           ~~demountable ceiling panel, and~~

7           ~~(b) — a plurality of arms extending from the base such that two~~  
8           ~~arms and the base define a channel for receiving one of~~  
9           ~~the demountable wall partition and the demountable~~  
10          ~~ceiling panel,~~

11          ~~wherein the plurality of arms comprises~~

12           ~~(1) — a first arm extending from the first end of the base,~~

13           ~~(2) — a second arm extending from the second end of the~~  
14           ~~base,~~

15           ~~(3) — a third arm extending from the base closer to the~~  
16           ~~first arm than the second arm,~~

17           ~~(4) — a fourth arm extending from the base closer to the~~  
18           ~~second arm than the first arm and between the~~  
19           ~~third arm and the second arm, such that~~

20           ~~(5) — an exterior channel is defined by the first arm, the~~  
21           ~~third arm and the base therebetween,~~